

## Message Text

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64

ACTION ARA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1037

INFO DEA HQS WASHDC PRIORITY

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S/NM FOR COHEN; SER/INC FOR WAMPLER; DEA EOI CUSACK FOR STTS  
SCHLESINGER

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR/MX

SUBJ: EQUIPMENT AND CONSUMABLES FOR 1975-76 EXPANDED INTENSIFIED  
ERADICATION CAMPAIGN

REF: (A) A-326; (B) MEXICO 6564; (C) MEXICO 8707; (D) STATE 244986

1. DURING THE TIMEFRAME THE NCAP (REF A) WAS IN DRAFT STAGE, WE WERE ENGAGED IN CONTINUING DISCUSSIONS WITH AG OFFICIALS ON THE PLANNING FOR A MORE INTENSIVE AND EXTENSIVE FORTHCOMING CAMPAIGN. IN OUR EXCHANGE OF CABLES (REF B) RELATED TO REIMBURSEMENT TO THE AG OFFICE ON POL COSTS, WE NOTED THAT THEIR COSTS EXCEEDED THE REIMBURSEMENT AMOUNT UNDER TERMS OF THE 11 DEC 1974 AGREEMENT. ADDITIONALLY, THE AG RESOURCES DEPLOYED IN THE WESTERN SECTOR WERE NOT SIGNIFICANTLY DIMINISHED AS THEY MAINTAINED MOMENTUM WITH RESIDUAL POPPY ERADICATION ACTIVITIES AND CONTINUED WITH THE MARIHUANA CAMPAIGN. OUR REVISION OF FUNDING UNDER THE PROPOSED GENERAL AGREEMENT CITED IN REF (C) REPRESENTS A MORE REALISTIC ESTIMATE OF THE POL REQUIREMENTS BASED ON THE FOLLOWING:

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(A) THE SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN TROOP-LIFT RW AIRCRAFT TASKED WITH INCREASED MISSIONS AND ALMOST TRIPLIED NUMBER OF TROOPS.

(B) THE EXTENSIVE GEOGRAPHICAL AREA OF THE OPERATIONAL ZONES WHICH COVERS NINE STATES CONSISTING OF SINALOA, CHIHUAHUA, DURANGO, NAYARIT, JALISCO, COLIMA, MICHOACAN, GUERRERO, AND OAXACA.

(C) THE REMOTE LOCATION OF SOME OF THE BASES WHICH CANNOT BE SUPPLIED POL NEEDS THROUGH CONTRACT ARRANGEMENT WITH NAOOOA WHICH WILL REQUIRE HANDLING THROUGH LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS OR AIR-FERRYING.

2. THE MILLION US DOLLAR REQUESTED CITED IN REF (C) IS OUR BEST ESTIMATE OF THE POL REIMBURSEABLE COSTS IN ORDER TO SUPPORT THE PRESENT AND IMMINENT INTENSIFIED CAMPAIGNS. IN THE PAST, THE AG ADMIN OFFICE HAS BEEN LAX IN SUBMITTING THEIR ACCOUNTING FOR POL REIMBURSEMENT PURPOSES. THEREFORE, WE HAVE OPTED TO RETAIN THE FUNDING PROJECTIONS FOR FIFTH QUARTER (BICENTENNIAL) AND FY-77 AS CITED IN REF (A).

3. DURING THE JOINT USG/GOM DISCUSSIONS IN JULY OF 1975, ONE OF THE TOPICS ADDRESSED INTERDICTION EFFORTS AND ROADBLOCKS. THIS SUBJECT IS MENTIONED IN DRAFT OF JOINT USG/GOM REPORT, UNDER TOPIC 15. DEA REPS HAVE BEEN DISCUSSING THE EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF ROADBLOCK TECHNIQUES RECOMMENDED IN A STUDY CONDUCTED BY THEIR EXPERT IN SEPT OF 1974 WITH AG COUNTERPARTS. THE AG'S OFFICE HAS AGREE TO PROVIDE CUSTOM MANUFACTURES REFLECTORIZED

SIGNS AND MARKERS IN SPANISH. THE USG INPUT WOULD CONSIST OF ESSENTIAL HARDWARE SUCH AS PORTABLE METALLIC BARRICADES, REFLECTORIZED PLASTIC TRAFFIC CONES, AND FLASHING LIGHTS BOTH AMBER AND RED A A COST ESTIMATED AT 15,000 DOLLARS. THE COST COVERS THE EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR A TOTAL OF TWENTY UNITS WHICH WILL SET UP INTERDICTION OPERATIONS IN CONFORMITY WITH OVERALL PLAN OF ERADICATION ACTIVITIES.

4. THE 50,000 (FIFTY-THOUSAND) U.S. DOLLAR FUNDING REQUIREMENT FOR CONSUMABLES FOR BOTH MOPSS UNITS IS AN ESTIMATE BASED ON LAST YEAR'S REQUIREMENTS. THESE OBLIGATIONS REMAIN A USG UNILATERAL RESPONSIBILITY IN CONSULTATION WITH AG COUNTERPARTS.

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5. WE REITERATE OUR DESIRE FOR A TIMELY RECEIPT OF DRAFT AGREEMENTS (AND SPANISH LANGUAGE TRANSLATION) SO WE MAY BEGIN NEGOTIATIONS WITH GOM/AG COUNTERPARTS.  
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